









# Strategic Plan Update

What has changed and will it impact our rate path?

Review Panel Meeting (1st in series of 3) January 13, 2014

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"... I have always found that plans are useless, but planning is indispensable."

— Dwight D. Eisenhower

#### WHAT WILL WE ACHIEVE TODAY?

- Agree on schedule to complete this update
- Understand current 2013-2018 plan
- Understand key successes & challenges in 2013
- Understand what's changed & impact on rate path
- Agree on four strategic questions to answer

#### AGREE ON THE SCHEDULE

# Please refer to the meeting schedule handouts.

Critical path to accomplish adoption of plan update in July:

- Three Review Panel meetings to agree on Utility Proposal (see agenda handout)
- Single phase of public outreach (mid-February through end of March)
- Two Review Panel meetings to agree on Recommendation (submit late April)
- Continual engagement of Mayor and Council (now through July)
- Mayor submits to Council
- Council vote in July

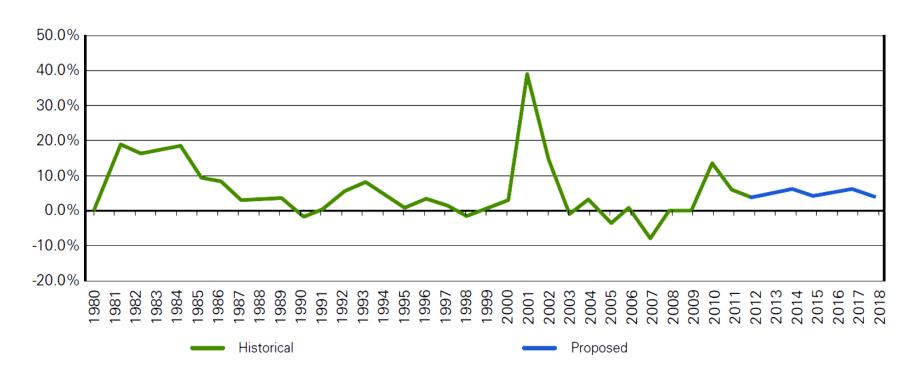
# 2013-2018 Strategic Plan

What was the plan?

## WHY A STRATEGIC PLAN?

# Consistent customer experience and rate predictability

Promised average rate increases of 4.7% per year over six years



#### 2013-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

#### Baseline investments to MAINTAIN current level of service.

Invest in power supply & environment, reliability, customer service, and infrastructure at levels needed to maintain current level of service.

## Efficiencies to improve the utility's productivity.

Identified efficiencies to produce \$18 million per year in savings by 2015.

#### Initiatives to ENHANCE the level of service.

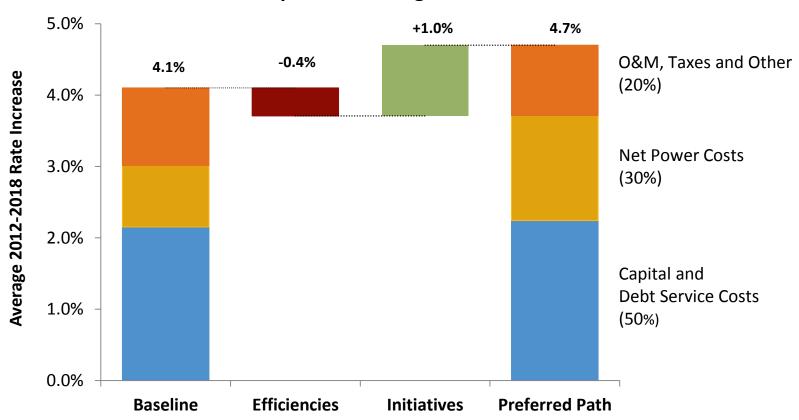
Investment in 36 initiatives to achieve these four objectives:

- 1. Improve customer experience and rate predictability
- 2. Increase workforce performance and safety practices
- 3. Enhance organizational performance
- 4. Continue conservation and environmental leadership

## 2013-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

## Most of rate increase is driven by baseline.

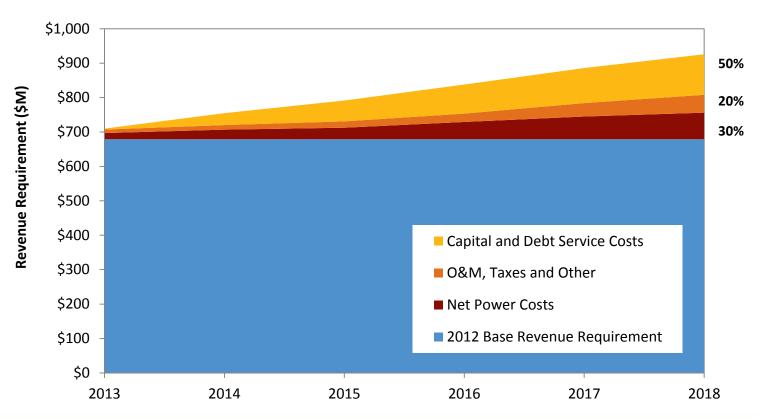
#### **Rate Impact of Strategic Plan**



## 2013-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

## Most of revenue requirement increase is driven by investment in infrastructure.





# 2013-2018 Strategic Plan

What have we accomplished in 2013?

Baseline, Initiatives and Efficiency Achievement

# THE PLAN IS ALREADY PRODUCING SUCCESS

- Bond Rating Upgrade
- Debt Service Reduction
- Solid 2013 Financial Results

# **BASELINE (Progress Report)**

The Strategic Plan identified 22 baseline assumptions which underpin the utility's ability to deliver current service levels to its customers.

The four pillars that these fall under are:

- Power Supply and Environment
- Reliability
- Customer Service
- Infrastructure and Support

In 2013, the utility did well by delivering on all 22 baseline assumptions, meeting or exceeding 20 of the metrics.

See handout

# **BASELINE** (Examples of Success)

#### **Improved Reliability**

Achieved average of less than 1 outage per customer during 2013 (beat goal).

## **Improved First Hill Infrastructure**

 Completed upgrade of feeder serving First Hill hospitals to improve capacity and reliability.

## **Streetlights**

Exceeded goal of responding to 90% of streetlight reports within 10 business days.

## **Boundary Relicense**

New FERC license secures low-cost clean resource until 2055.

#### **Unit 55 Rewind**

- Improved generating capacity of 15% increases revenue by about \$2.5 million annually under normal hydro conditions.

# **BASELINE SUCCESS EXAMPLE 1**

# Upgrade of feeder 2750 improves capacity and reliability to First Hill

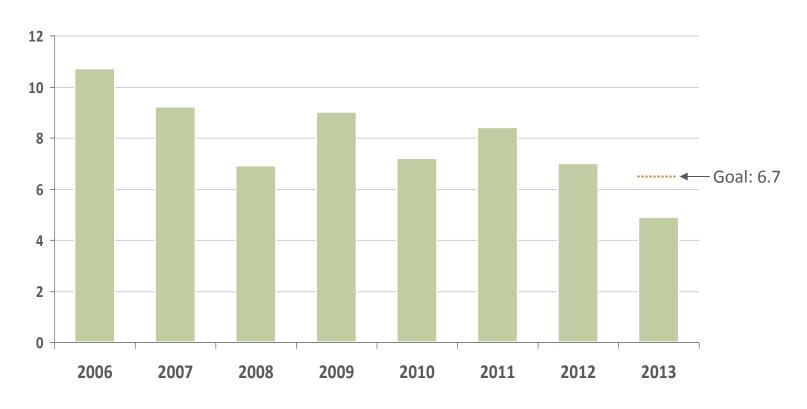




# **BASELINE SUCCESS EXAMPLE 2**

# **Safety**

We are well on our way to exceeding our goal for safety incidents (TRR) in 2013



# **EFFICIENCIES**

2013 Strategic Plan Efficiency Results		
Target	\$6.9 million	
Achieved	\$7.2 million	
Over/(Under)	\$0.3 million	

# 2013 efficiencies exceeded target.

• See handout

# **INITIATIVES**

2013 Initiative Status		
Complete	1	
On-Track	18	
Temporarily Delayed	12	
Over Budget or Scope	2	
Not Started	3	
	Total 36	

Solid progress continues with the Strategic Plan Initiatives.

• See handout.



# 2013-2018 Strategic Plan

What challenges did we face?

What has changed?

## **CHALLENGES: BASELINE & INITIATIVES**

#### **Denny Substation Costs**

A changing design and higher environmental remediation costs drive the cost \$62
million above budget.

## **Decrease in Load Growth Assumption**

- The 0.6% annual load growth assumed in the 2013-2018 plan was too optimistic. New forecast predicts lower growth.

#### **Technical Training Center Costs**

Underestimated construction and environmental mitigation costs by \$6.6 million.

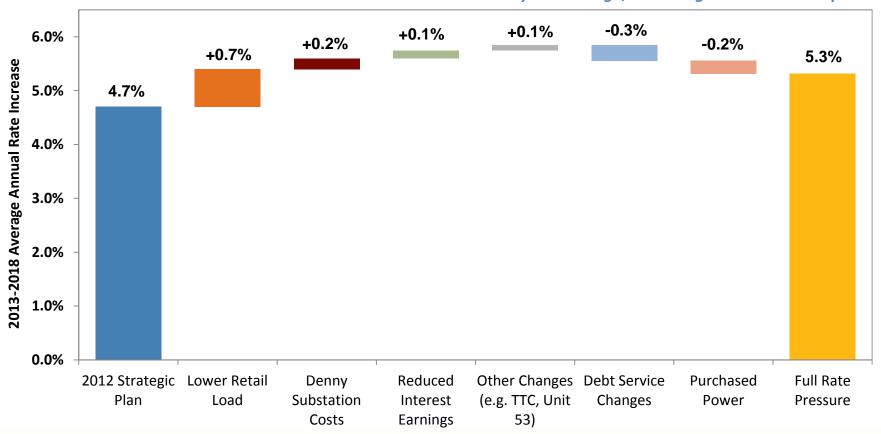
## **Unit 53 Unplanned Outage**

— An unplanned outage of the 158 MW Unit 53 at Boundary accelerated the need for overhauling this unit, causing a reallocation of capital spending for generator rebuilds and accelerated spending in 2013-2014 for an emergency overhaul.

#### **BASELINE & INITIATIVE CHANGES: IMPACT ON RATE PATH**

Over the past two years, unexpected outcomes have increased the rate path from 4.7% to 5.3%





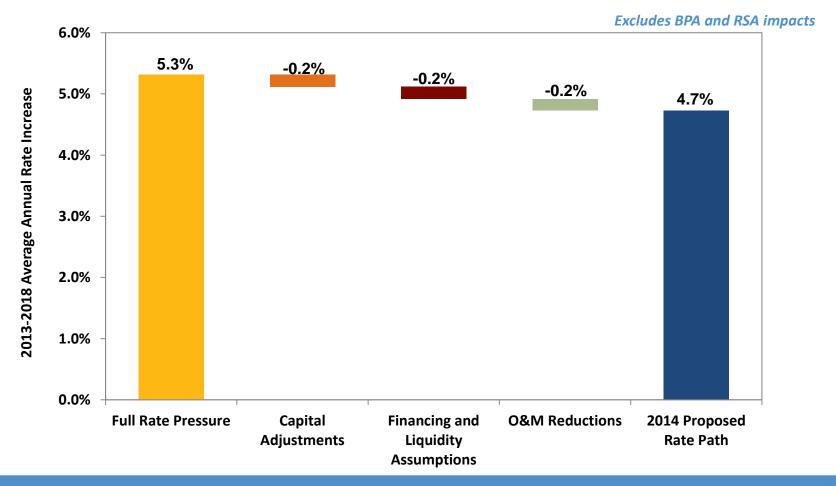
# Target Rate Path

What should be our target rate path?

Should we make adjustments to 2015-2018?

## PROPOSED ACTIONS TO MITIGATE RATE PRESSURE

# Mitigating measures and assumptions will bring the rate path back to 4.7%



#### MITIGATION PLAN

## **Capital Adjustments**

- Slow pace of certain investments based on revised needs:
  - Transmission and networks associated with Denny substation
  - Cable injection
- Assume sale of Roy Street property

## **Financing and Liquidity**

Plan to use line of credit to reduce the cash position outstanding and debt service costs.

#### **O&M Reductions**

Assume a 3% under-expenditure of non-power O&M (which more closely reflects actual spending performance), of approximately \$10M each year.

# FOUR STRATEGIC QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- 1. Are the strategy and four key objectives of the 2013-2018 plan still appropriate for the 2015-2020 update?
- 2. Do you agree with the utility's assessment of its commitments and progress regarding the baseline, efficiencies, and initiatives?
- 3. Are you comfortable reaffirming the 4.7% average rate increases for 2013-2018?
- 4. Are the two new initiatives presented for 2019-2020 reasonable and appropriate?

# Next Meeting

New initiatives for 2019 – 2020

Impact on rate path

Panel discussion – plan and performance